GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3415
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2000
DUTY ROSTER FOR C.S.B.OS. IN A.H.QS
M.V.V.S MURTHI

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of CSBOs working in Army Headquarters Telephone Exchanges as on date;

(b) whether every CSBO has been given a permanent duty of morning/afternoon/day/night;

(c) if so, since when this arrangement has been going on;

(d) whether there is any move for discontinuance of this arrangement and putting each CSBO in rotational duty on daily basis;

(e) if so, the reasons and the justification thereof; and

(f) the steps taken to ensure that the arrangement of rotational duty is stopped forthwith?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (f): A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3415 16.3.2000.

At present 94 CSBOs are employed in the Army HQrs Telephone Exchange. Every CSBO has been given a permanent duty of morning/afternoon/day/night. The present arrangement has been going on for about two decades. The Signals Directorate (AHQ), is however, considering discontinuance of this arrangement and putting each CSBO in rotation duty, on daily basis.

2. The reasons and justifications thereof are as follows:-

(a) The existing arrangement is no longer viable due to reduction in combatant exchange operators after the Army Static Establishment Committee (ASEC) review, in 1997.

(b) There are a number of absentees during the evening and night shifts and during holidays. Further, the authorisation of CSBOs per shift is worked out as follows as per ASEC recommendations:-

(i) Total number of positions to be manned 42 including supervisory position.
(ii) Number of CSBOs required per shift 26

(iii) Number of Combatants per shift 16

(iv) Average Availability of CSBOs:-

(a) Average present availability during day 20 time

(b) Average present availability during 23 afternoon

(c) Average present availability during 10 night

(d) Average availability on Saturday, 07 Sunday and Holidays

By following rotational duty system, there will be increased availability of CSBOs/Shift (24/25 CSBOs per shift) which will facilitate better functioning of the EPABX.

(c) This is an operational matter to ensure optimum communication support.

3. However, the proposed rotation duty system is to be implemented by AHQ only after further deliberations with CSBOs.